



User Needs on NIF and NIF User Group Advocacy

**Don Q. Lamb
NIF User Group Chair**

**NIF/JLF User Group Meeting
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
February 3, 2016**



Members of the NUG Executive Committee

Current members:

- Don Lamb – Chair (University of Chicago)
- Farhat Beg – Vice Chair (UC San Diego)
- Justin Wark – Past Chair (University of Oxford)
- Riccardo Betti (University of Rochester)
- Kirk Flippo (LANL)
- Gianluca Gregori (University of Oxford)
- Michel Koenig (Ecole Polytechnique)
- Chikang Li (MIT)
- Jena Meinecke (University of Oxford)
- Paul Neumayer (GSI)
- Hye-Sook Park (LLNL)
- Mingsheng Wei (General Atomic)

Immediate past members:

- Alexis Casner (CEA)
- Paul Drake (University of Michigan)
- Hans Hermann (LANL)



NIF User Group Recommendations

- Proposal and awards process
 - Proposal and shot day cycle
 - Platforms and diagnostics
- detailed recommendations concerning these topics are discussed in the presentation, “Framework for Discussion” that was given during yesterday’s NIF User Group Meeting.



NIF User Group advocacy of DS program on NIF and HEDP generally

- The President's budget request to Congress for FY 2016 contained \$47 M for Discovery Plasma Science in DOE OFES compared to \$62 M in the FY 2015 budget as enacted, in effect *zeroing out* funding for the OFES part of the OFES-NNSA Joint Program in HEDP.
- In February 2015, the NUG chair met with staffers for several key Representatives, and with staffers for several Senators who are members of the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee.
- In these meetings, the chair advocated for restoration of funding for the OFES part of the OFES-NNSA Joint Program in HEDP and for the DS program on NIF.
- In November and December, the NUG chair corresponded with these same staffers and advocated for restoration of funding for the OFES part of the OFES-NNSA Joint Program in HEDP by the House-Senate Appropriations Conference Committee.



NIF User Group advocacy for DS program on NIF and HEDP generally

- Similar efforts were made by HEDSA, especially Chris McGuffey and Bedros Afeyan (past and current presidents of HEDSA) and David Hammer.
- Advocacy by the academic HEDP community paid off: Discovery Plasma Science received \$67 M in the FY 2016 budget as enacted (\$20 M more than the President's budget request and \$5 M more than the FY 2015 budget as enacted), making > \$13 M available for the OFES part of the OFES-NNSA Joint Program in HEDP in FY 2016.
- Strong advocacy by the academic HEDP community will be vital again this year to restore funding for the OFES part of the Joint Program, which was again in effect *zeroed out* in the President's budget request to Congress for FY 2017.